Isaiah 9:6

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and government shall be upon his shoulders:

700 yrs before the first Xmas. The world's darkness. No vision.

The prophet, Isaiah, like a heavenly chime rings forth the glad news: first part of text.

"Ring out wild bells to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty nigh
Ting out, wild bells!

Five times the bell of the prophet strikes.

1. His name shall be called wonderful.

1. Mystery , at the threshhold of lif
Great is the mystery of godliness

2. Xmas. X equals the unknown quan tity.

Webster asked if he underetood the Christ, replyed, "Now how should I? I could not believe in Him of I understood Him."

2nd Bell. His name shall be called Cou Counselor.

The world needs guidance. To every man there comes a time when he does not see his next move. Nor can others help him. But a voice from heeaven answers him "This is my beloved Son, hear ye him."

Third Bell. A deep majestic note- He shall be called the mighty God. The diety of Christ needs no proof, especially at Xmas time. When the sun shines need we to prove that there is light The very spirit of Xmas is evidence of Immanuel- God with us.

Fourth Bell. He shall be called the Everlasting Father.

1. The human heart years for intimacy with the Infinite.

2. God made visible in his son "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father. Believest thau not that I am in the Father and the Fatherin me?

The great blessing to the world of the teaching of Jesus "Our Father who art in heaven"

3. Man seeks after a knowledge of God, an understanding of Life, but what he really crave is intimacy with God.

Fifth Bell. He shall be called the Prince of Peace.

The sweetest note of all.

How sickening it all is, the world's passion and strife turmoil and unrest.

But in the midst ofit comes this this pleading note from the uplifted Crist with outstretched and pierced hands,"Peace, be still". Why hate ye one another? Why strive against one another? Why lust yourselves into disease and suffering? Why these instruments of torture and warfare? Beat your swords into ploughshares and your spears into pruning hooks. Love ye one another. Let peace come to earth and good will to men.

"Ring and swing,
Bells of joy! On morning's wing
Send the song of praise abroad!
Tell the nations that He reigns
Who alone is God."